

XV.—OCCURRENCE OF THE RUFOUS SHORT-TOED LARK
(*CALANDRELLA BRACHYDACTYLA DUKHUNENSIS*
SYKES) IN NORTHERN BURMA.

The *Fauna* (2nd Edition) states that this Lark 'occurs in Burma', but apart from one specimen obtained by Dates near Pegu on April 25, 1880, no one seems to have observed or obtained it, and it has not yet been recorded from Yunnan. On April 6, 1936, I shot a single bird out of a flock of 20 or 30, which was feeding on a bare patch of stubble close to Myitkyina. The flock remained circling over the plain for the next half hour but when they eventually alighted, I was unable to find them again owing to the presence of a Peregrine Falcon. The weather at the time was unusual, very cold with occasional heavy rain-storms and possibly these birds were driven down from the higher hills. La Touche however noticed this species on passage in Eastern China between April 11th and 19th; I am quite certain that these are the first Short-toed Larks I have ever come across in Burma.

I am indebted to Mr. N. B. Kinnear for identifying this specimen which is now in the British Museum, with the other Burma specimen.

LONDON.

J. K. STANFORD, I.C.S.

January 16, 1937.

XVI.—THE EGG-LAYING OF THE KHASIA HILLS CUCKOO
(*CUCULUS CANORUS BAKERI* HARTERT).

We record an extract from an article by Mr. T. R. Livesey contributed to the *Times of India Annual*, 1937 in which the author gives his personal observation of a cuckoo depositing her egg in an inaccessible nest at Taunggyi, S. Shan States, Burma, on the 24th April 1936. The cuckoo concerned is the Eastern Cuckoo (*C. canorus bakeri*) and the selected fosterer was the Burmese Stone Chat (*Saxicola caprata burmanica*). The article in an amended form is reproduced by courtesy of Mr. Francis Lowe, Editor of the *Times of India*.

Mr. Livesey describes the incident as follows:—

'On April 22, at about 4 p.m., a cuckoo came flying slowly to the corner of the stubble field, some 60 yards from my cottage. It settled on the ground within 20 yards of me and began looking about. A pair of Stone Chats were in attendance and in much alarm. The cuckoo flew off, but shortly after returned and pitched in the field at about the same place. To watch it better I went in and got my field-glasses. The cuckoo had its mouth open and its throat feathers puffed out, and was panting like a domestic fowl on a hot day. The reddish marking on the neck showed it to be a hen bird. She began to move about as if searching for something, so I suspected a chat's nest there. After she had flown away I went and looked. Sure enough there was the chat's nest four yards from the fence. It was somewhat conspicuous, as the